

George Parker

Progress Report – 2019 - GWNZ Fellowship Award

Dear GWNZ Charitable Trust,

I am delighted to send you this mid-term report to update you on my progress on my PhD during this tenure as the recipient of a GWNZ Postgraduate Fellowship. The award has been a significant enabler in being able to keep paid work to a minimum, and access childcare so that I can focus my energies on this final year of my doctorate.

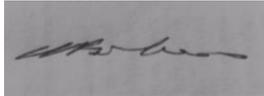
My primary goal for the first half of 2019 was to complete a full first draft of my thesis, which was submitted to my supervisors for review and feedback. I have completed this goal a month ahead of schedule and am now collating their feedback, undertaking revisions, and working on several areas of the thesis that require a little more development. Their feedback has been very positive, and I am confident that I am on track for completion of the thesis by the end of this year.

As discussed in my application, I am completing my thesis by publications. The past six months have been very exciting as several of my thesis chapters, that were journeying through the publication cycle, have now been published. This includes a chapter in an edited volume published by Demeter Press titled 'Heavy Burdens: Stories of motherhood and fatness' and a journal article in the international journal *Feminism & Psychology*. I have been asked to present on my research in several lectures to different disciplines including midwifery and population health, and have had a paper on my research accepted for an international conference on mothering in Sydney. I have also been approached by the editors to write a chapter for a forthcoming handbook on critical obesity studies to be published by Routledge, which I will plan to complete in the first quarter of next year. I have started providing some Masters of Midwifery supervision through the School of Midwifery at Otago Polytechnic and am exploring teaching opportunities there for 2020.

In summary, it has been a very productive, busy, and exciting time as I weave my doctoral research project to its completion. I am hugely grateful for the financial support offered by a GWNZ Fellowship, which is helping me achieve my goal of completing my doctorate.

I have included a photo of me receiving a published copy of Heavy Burdens in the post.

Ngā manaakitanga



George Parker

